OSMP Rules & Regulations

Last Updated Thursday, 31 August 2006

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Click to jump down to these topics:

- »Dogs
- »Bikes
- »Hangliding and Paragliding
- »Horses
- »Glass Containers
- »Hiking Off-Trail
- »Damaging Property
- »Wildlife Protection
- »Area Closures
- »Camping
- »Fires and Fireworks
- »Litter, Trash and Dumping
- »Weapons / Firearms
- »Trespass
- »Grazing
- »Bolting / Rock Climbing
- »Permits for Organized Events
- »Alcohol
- »Parking Fees

Curious about the Visitor Plan? Follow this link: You and the Visitor Plan: Common Questions

The following regulations are in effect on the city of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks for the enjoyment and protection of this unique resource. Please take the time to read posted regulations at each trailhead as they vary by area. You are responsible for knowing and obeying all OSMP regulations. Violations may result in summons and/or fines. Rangers patroll OSMP land. For further information please contact the city of Boulder OSMP department, at 303-441-3440. In case of an emergency, call 911.

Dog Regulations

Please be careful when bringing your dog to OSMP. Dog regulations vary on OSMP lands. In some areas dogs must be leashed. In other areas, dogs may be allowed off leash if they meet the voice and sight control standards at all times.

Dogs must be managed when visiting in order to limit negative impacts on the environment and other visitors. Dogs can frighten or chase wildlife. Dog management is necessary to provide a good experience for all visitors. Some visitors are afraid of dogs for many different reasons - all of which must be respected. Managing dogs also helps protect dogs and guardians. Dogs sniffing in prairie dog holes can pick up fleas carrying bubonic plague. Dogs can be stung by insects, sprayed by skunks, eaten by mountain lions, infected with rabies or distemper, injured or lost.

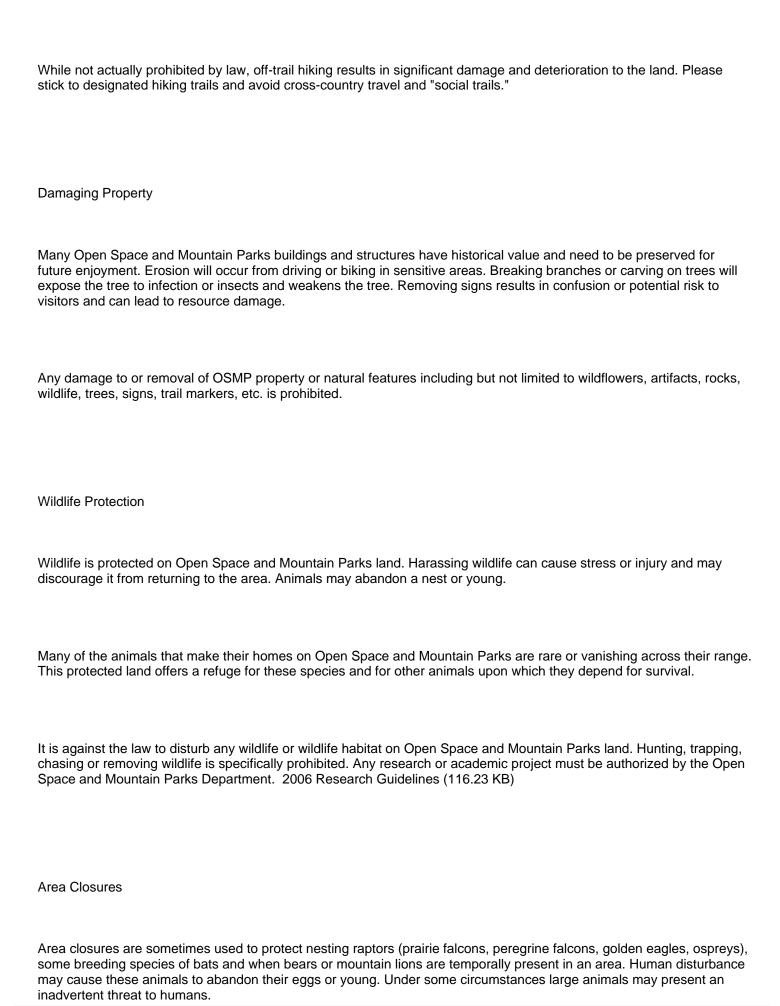
Visitors are legally responsible for picking up and disposing of their pet's excrement. Dog waste is very damaging to the environment. Please see our special page for dog owners and download the Updated Dog Regulation Map of OSMP - August 2006 (904 Kb).

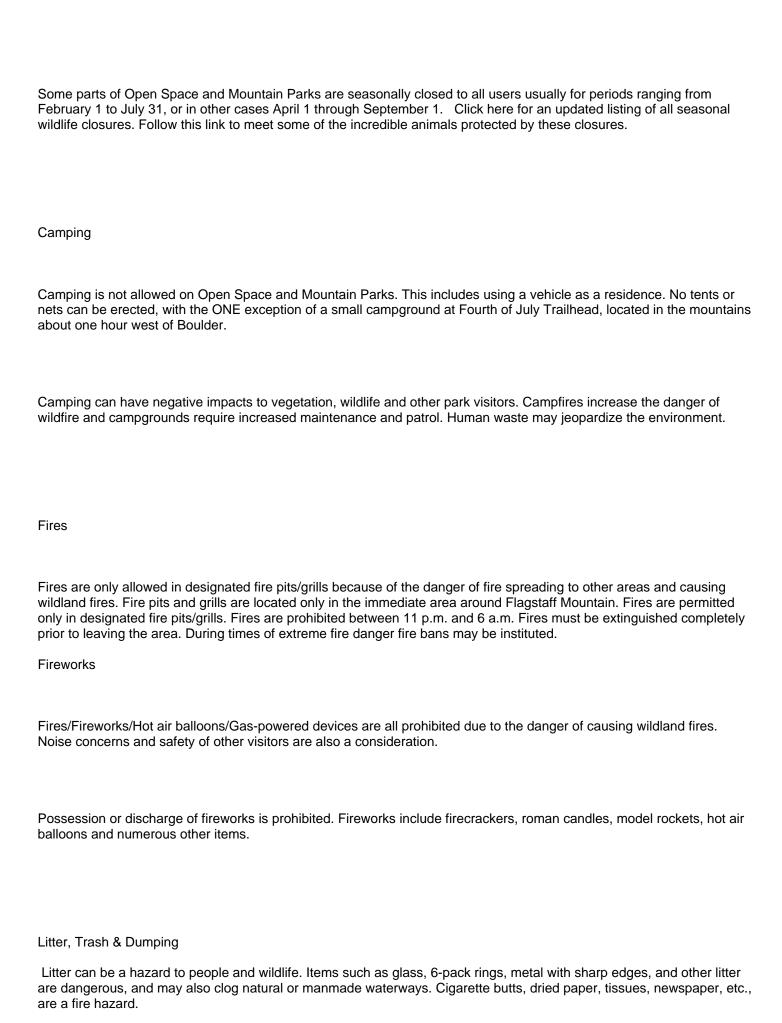
It is estimated that OSMP removes 40 tons of dog waste each year. That's the equivalent weight of 15 Ford Explorers!

Bike RegulationsBiking is allowed on designated trails, which are identified on the OSMP Trail Map. Bikes must remain on-trail. This limits erosion, costly trail maintenance and reduces conflicts between users. When a people or animals walk, they leave disjointed tracks whereas a bike leaves a continuous rut which water will follow when draining.
More information about biking on OSMP
Hang Gliding and Paragliding
Hang gliding and paragliding are allowed at a launch site near Wonderland Lake. Other potential launch sites are currently being explored.
Horse Regulations
Horses are permitted on all trails unless specifically prohibited.
Glass Containers
Broken glass is difficult to clean up. People, pets and wildlife can be injured by broken glass, so glass containers are prohibited.
Hiking Off-Trail
A hiker's foot can crush delicate wild flowers, create erosion-prone "social trails" and cause designated trails to widen

can wash your boots, but a plant may be permanently damaged by a careless footprint.

over time. When hiking, please stay on the trail tread even when it is muddy or icy to protect surrounding vegetation. You

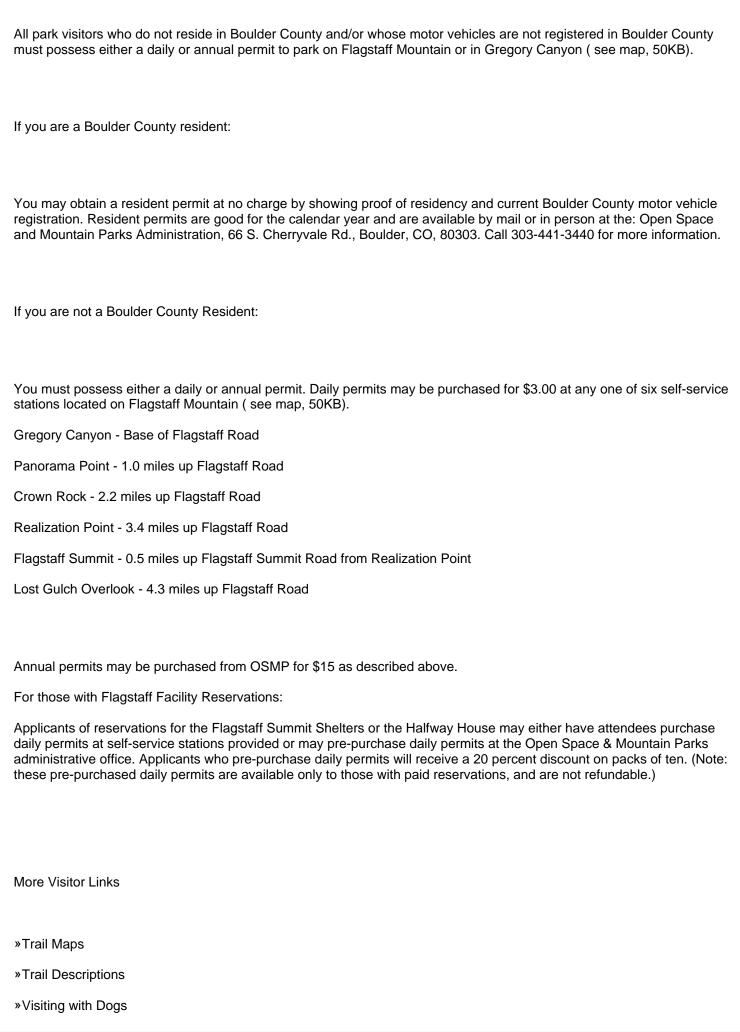




Please dispose of litter in trash cans, or remove it from the area if trash containers are full. Dumping of residential or other trash generated elsewhere is prohibited.
Photo - Hiker trash found in a bear's scat at Bear Peak. Contents include plastic bags, aluminum foil, cigarette butts.
Curfew
Curfew is set to control overnight use of parking lots for camping or parties. OSMP parking lots are closed to vehicles between midnight and 5 a.m. (11 p.m. on Flagstaff).
Motorized Vehicles
Service road gates must remain unblocked in order to provide emergency access at any time. Motorized vehicles must remain in parking lots to concentrate use and protect natural areas from resource damage done by off-road vehicles.
Motor vehicles are prohibited except in parking lots. Some lots along Flagstaff Road require a parking fee. Weapons & Firearms
Visitors with weapons jeopardize the safety of other visitors and wildlife. Prohibiting firearms also protects structures and facilities from vandalism due to target practice.
Possession or discharge of a firearm or weapon, including paint ball guns, is prohibited on OSMP.
Trespass
In order to allow an extra measure of protection for special or sensitive areas and protect buildings and structures from vandalism, entering closed areas or climbing on buildings is prohibited. Entering a closed area is Trespass on Public Property.

Horse and Livestock Grazing

OSMP leases areas that are suitable for grazing to lessees through a formal agreement. Grazing is one strategy used to promote the department's environmental objectives, such as the control of weeds without the use of chemicals, or to restore native grasslands.
Grazing of domestic animals, commercial livestock operations and livery operations are prohibited without a permit.
Permits for Organized Events
Any recreational, athletic, or social event intended for an attendance of 50 or more persons will need a permit. You may apply for a facility permit for events on the Flagstaff Summit. For all other events, you may download a special use permit (92.93 KB), or call or stop by OSMP for application information.
Bolting
Placement of Fixed Hardware (bolts, pitons, pins) is prohibited unless done in accordance with Notification of Bolt Replacement guidelines or as part of the Flatiron Climbing Council's Fixed Hardware Project. If you come across what you determine to be an unsafe bolt and wish to replace it, download and use this Notification for Bolt Replacement Form (9.73 KB). Replacement notifications are reviewed by OSMP staff and the FCC's Fixed Hardware Review Committee before final approval. In addition, certain specific areas of the Flatirons are eligible for new route development as part of the Fixed Hardware Project. Applicants can submit new route proposals and each proposal is reviewed by OSMP and the FCC before final approval. Information on which specific areas are eligible for new route development, as well as detailed information on the application process, can be found at on the Flatiron's Climbing Council Web site.
Other Prohibited Conduct
Golfing, polluting the water, wading or boating on lakes or ponds, sliding (sledding) except in designated areas, amplified sound systems, and disturbing the peace of other users by noise. Alcohol
Please be aware that state law prohibits the consumption of alcohol greater than 3.2% in any public place. Glass containers are prohibited on Open Space and Mountain Parks.
Parking Fee Areas
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»Wildlife Closures

»Leave No Trace on Open Space